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U.S. Application No. 09/918,694

Title: Method for Routing Connections in a Display of a Network Topology

Filing Date: July 30, 2001

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Statement Under 37 CFR 3.73(b) (1 page)

Comments on Statements of Reasons for Allowance (3 pages)

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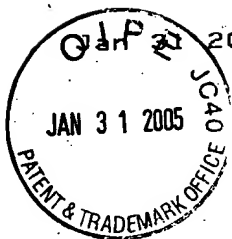
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P. 6

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application Serial No.09/918,694
Filing Date July 30, 2001
InventorsArquie
Group Art Unit2173
Examiner Bayerl, Raymond J.
Attorney's Docket No.233-550-USP
Title:Method For Routing Connections In The Display Of A Network Topology

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Customer No. 48929

COMMENTS ON STATEMENTS OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the allowance of claims-1-11 in the subject application by the Examiner. The Applicant agrees with the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance to the extent that claims 1-11 are patentable over the references in the record.

However, the Applicant expressly traverses the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance to the extent that any statement is intended to or has the intended effect of limiting a claim scope, explicitly or implicitly, by not reciting verbatim the respective claim language, or is intended to or has the effect of limiting a claim scope by stating or implying that all the reasons for patentability are in any way fully enumerated. The Applicant specifically does not acquiesce or agree in any manner as to any assertion in Examiner's statements that may be interpreted to narrow the claims to less than their recited scope.

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For example, claim 1 recites lines in a first direction but does not limit this first direction to either horizontal or vertical. According, while the Applicant does not read any of the Examiner's statements to suggest limitations not explicitly recited in the claim, the Applicant objects to any reading of the Examiner's statements that might be proposed to narrow claim 1 and any other claims to less than their recited scope.

The Applicant further points out that the reasons for allowance set forth by the Examiner are not the only reasons that claims 1-11 are allowable. The Applicant submits that the cited prior art fails to anticipate or make obvious the invention of the recited claims for more reasons than those set forth in the Examiner's statements. Further reasons for allowance of the claims beyond those enumerated by the Examiner herein are described and set forth in the Applicant's specification. In addition, structures and methods that perform substantially the same function in substantially the same way to achieve substantially the same results are included within the scope of the claims.

Finally, as the Examiner's reasons for allowance are not exhaustive, such reasons for allowance do not establish an estoppel against Applicant seeking and obtaining allowance of additional, broader claims in a continuation application, which Applicant reserves the right to file.

Accordingly, by virtue of the Examiner's allowance of the claims over the cited references, it is believed that the claims are given their broadest reasonable

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interpretation and further overcome all cited references as recited, without any narrowing effect that may be suggested by the Examiner's Comments.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: 1-31-05

By: 

Richard J. Holzer, Jr.
Reg. No. 42,668

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